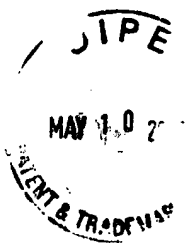


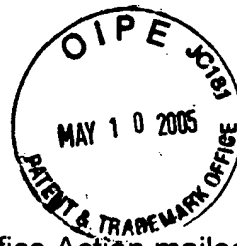
**Amendments to the Drawings:**

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figures 1-5b. These sheets replace the original sheets of Figures 1-5b. The legend "Prior Art" has been added.

Attachments:        Replacement Sheet  
                         Annotated Sheet Showing Changes



### COMMENTS



The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on January 5, 2005. At the time the Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 1 through 57 were pending. By way of the present response the Applicant has canceled claims 1 through 57 and added new claims 58 through 60. As such claims 58 through 60 are presently pending.

The Applicant has herewith included amended drawings to cure the objections raised by the Examiner.

The Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 57 is patentable over the Fox and Krause references. Independent claim 57 recites specific items of hardware that are simply not contemplated by the Fox and Krause references (which appear to the Applicant to be dedicated to processes that are performed in software). Here, specific features of an offload processing unit are claimed that perform operations traditionally performed by a central processing unit. Because the central processing unit does not have to perform the functions that are performed by the offload processing unit, better performance from the computing system's central processing unit are expected. Fox and Krause simply can not reasonably be held to convey the elements recited in the Applicant's claims because the teachings of these references essentially teach processors or modules to be executed by a central processing system.

Therefore the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 57 through 60 are presently allowable.


### Conclusion

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert B. O'Rourke at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 5/5/05

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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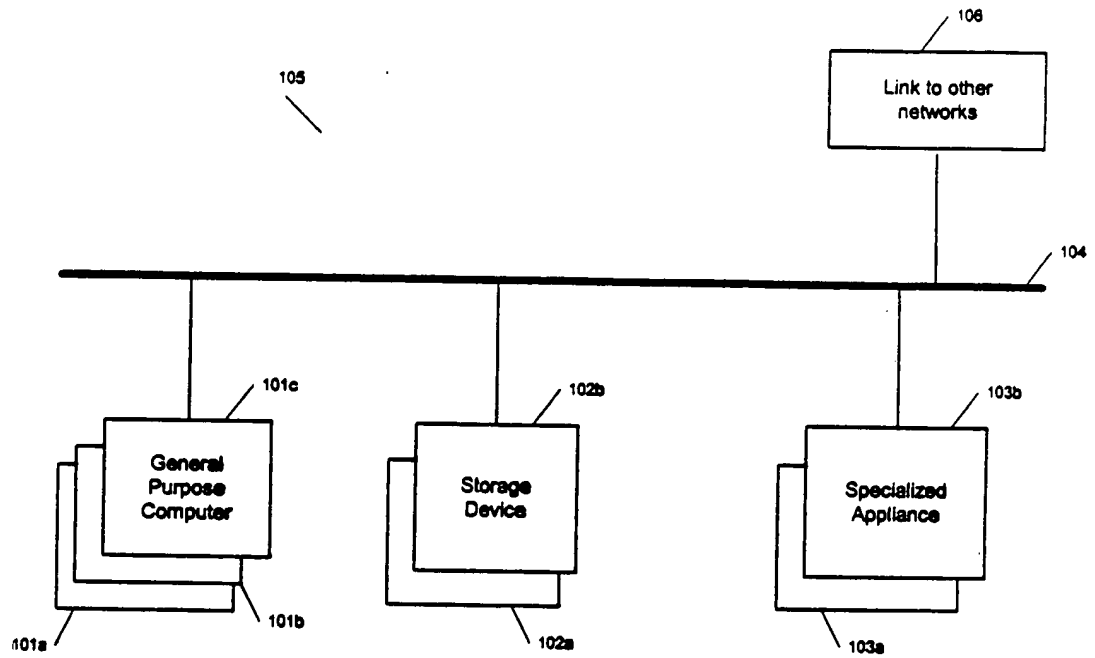


Figure 1. Local Area Network  
(PRIOR ART)

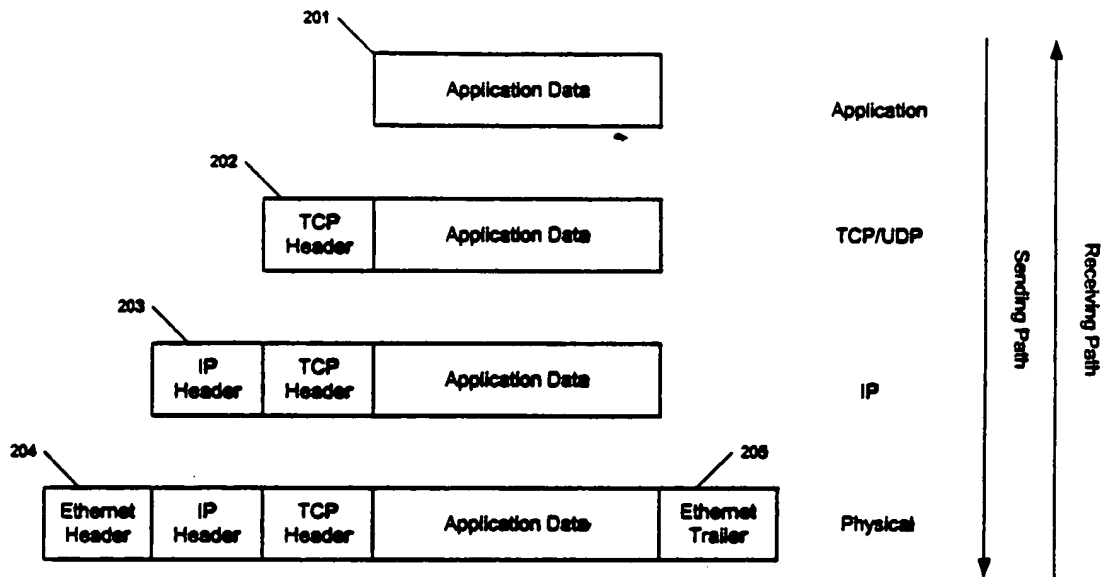


Figure 2. TCP/IP Network Protocol Stack (without SSL)

(PRIORITY)

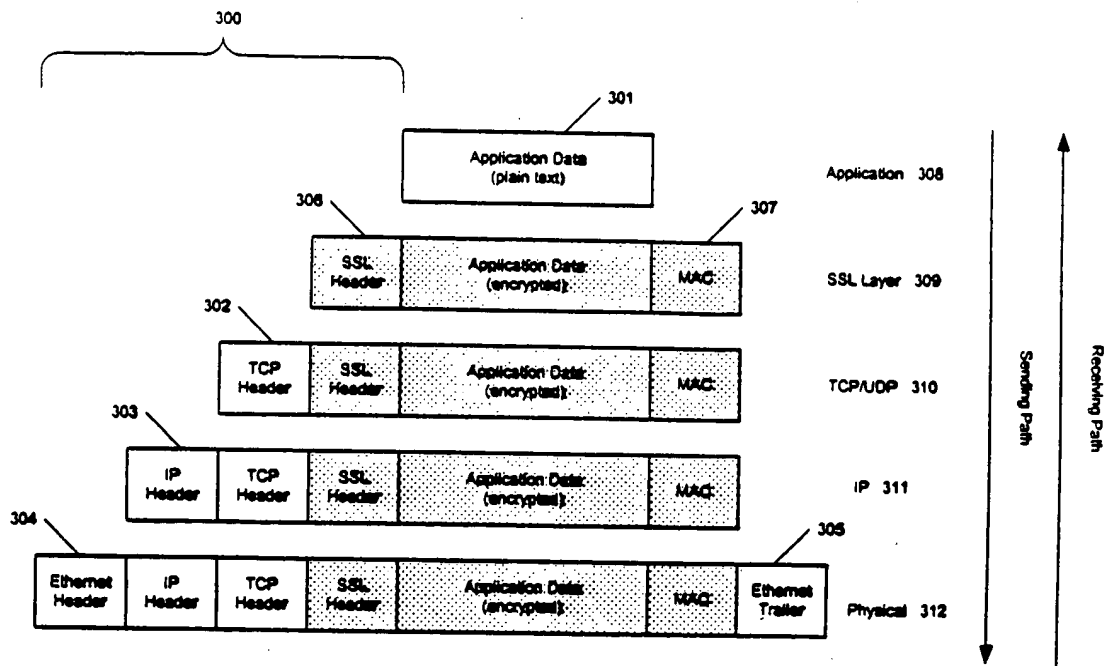
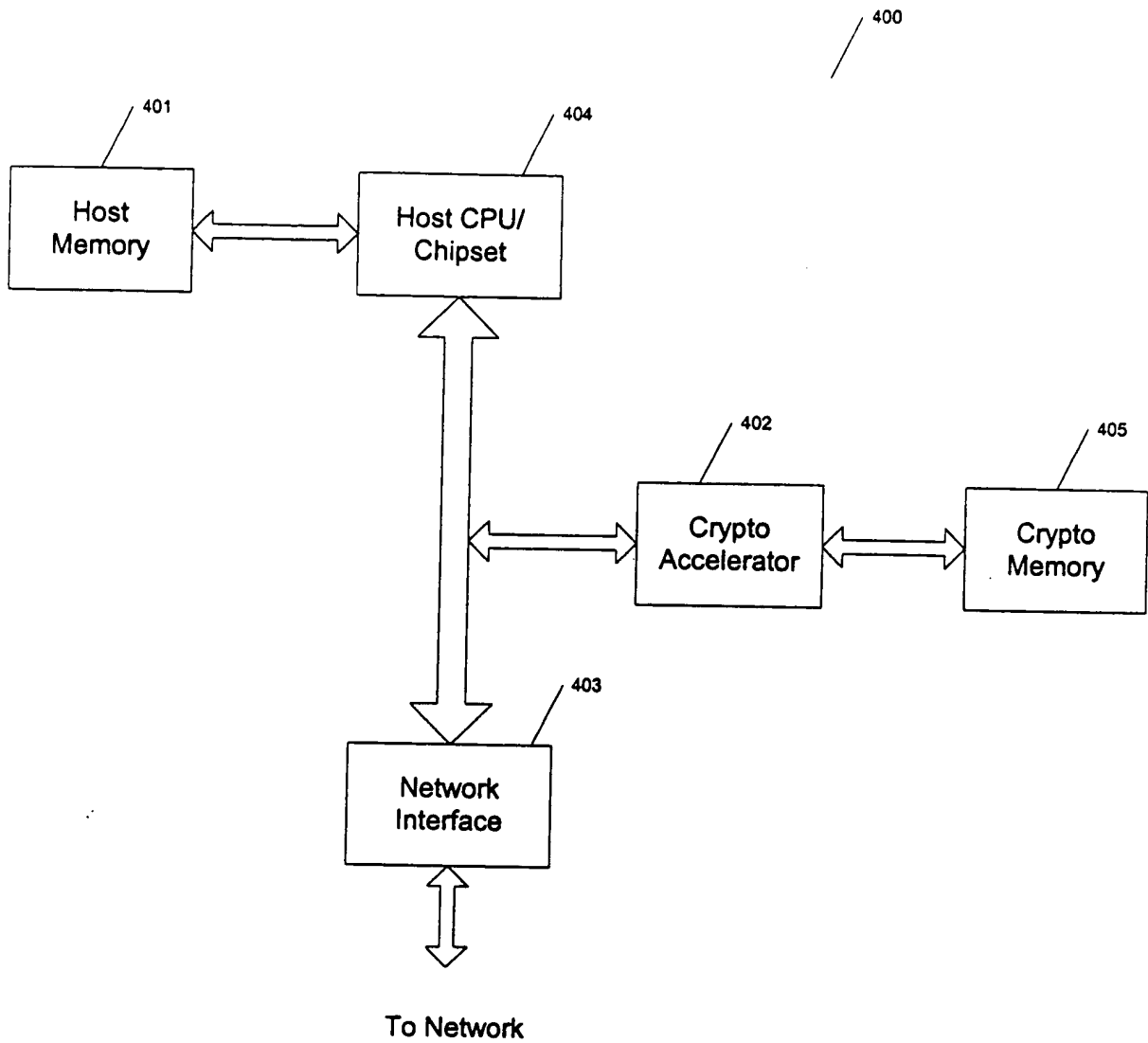


Figure 3. TCP/IP Network Protocol Stack with SSL

(PRIOR ART)



**Figure 4. Existing SSL Acceleration Devices**

(PRIOR ART)

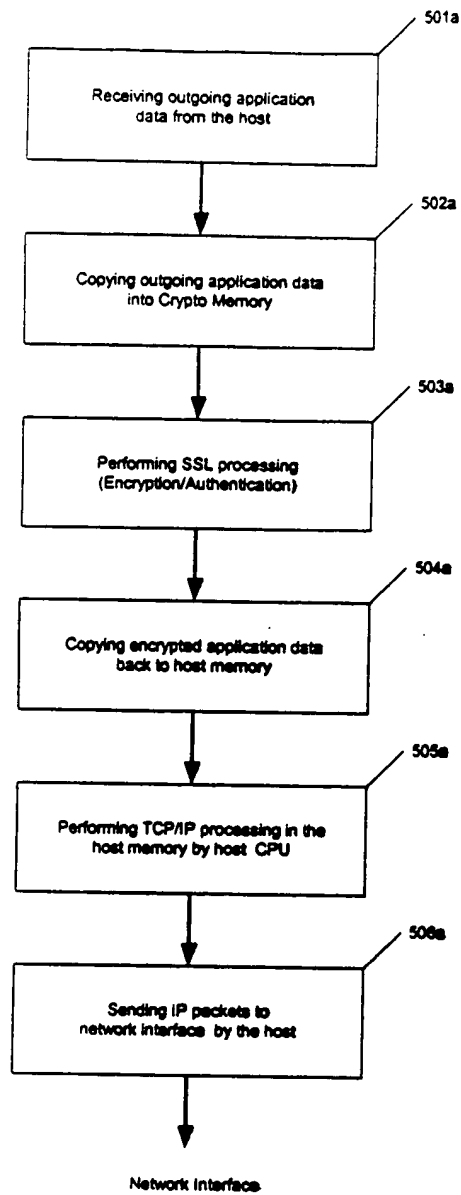


Figure 5a. Outgoing data processing

(PRIOR ART)

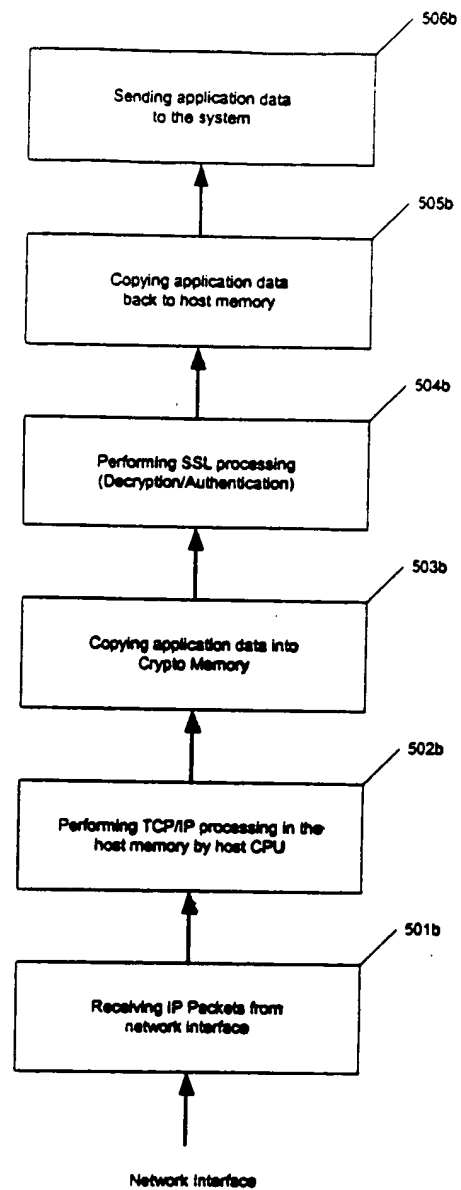


Figure 5b. Incoming data processing

(PRIOR ART)